

BOROUGH OF MARGATE



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

S.A. BOYD

M.D. (VIENNA) D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR 1971

Including the Report of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

J.R. GREIG M.R.S.H. M.A.P.H.I.

AND THE

Meteorological Report



Borough of Margate

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
41 HAWLEY SQUARE,
MARGATE.

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BOROUGH OF MARGATE

ANNUAL REPORT

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for 1971

S. A. BOYD, M.D.(Vienna), D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

41 HAWLEY SQUARE, MARGATE

TELEPHONE - THANET 21392

To the Worshipful the Mayor, and to the Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Margate.

Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1971.

I should like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committee, and other officers of the Council for their co-operation and assistance during the year.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

S. A. BOYD.

Medical Officer of Health.

BOROUGH OF MARGATE

MAYOR

Councillor H. Anish

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE - MAY 1971

Alderman E. C. Sheen (Chairman)

" W. A. Beerling (Vice-Chairman)

" A. Reynolds

Councillor J. D. Chalmers (Resigned 31.7.71)

" W. C. Goodrich (Appointed 8.9.71)

" C. Hoser

" S. Hoser (Died 31.12.71)

" D. J. Knott

" F. S. Mathews

" D. J. Reilly

" S. Ridler

" A. T. Spurr

" Mrs. D. E. Thompson

Medical Officer of Health

S. A. Boyd, M.D.(Vienna)D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health
(Part-time)

Eleanor A. Thompson, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Chief Public Health Inspector

J. R. Greig, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF - 1971

Medical Officer of Health and Meteorologist for the Borough of Margate, and Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Ramsgate and the Urban District of Broadstairs and St. Peters.	: Stephen A. Boyd, : M.D.(Vienna), D.P.H., M.F.C.M. : : :
Deputy Medical Officer of Health (part-time) for the Boroughs of Margate and Ramsgate, and the Urban District of Broadstairs and St. Peters.	: Eleanor A. Thompson, : M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. : :
Chief Public Health Inspector	: Edward Brazier, M.A.P.H.I. (Retired 7.3.71) : John R. Greig, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. : (Appointed 8.3.71)
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector	: A. M. R. Jones, M.A.P.H.I.
Additional Public Health Inspectors	: L. Whiteley, M.A.P.H.I. : D. G. Banks, M.A.P.H.I. : J. H. R. Brown, M.A.P.H.I.
Pupil Public Health Inspector	: I. Ferguson
Technical Assistant	: L. J. Stephens
Chief Clerk; and Deputy Meteorological Observer (part-time)	: E. A. Price :
Clerks	: Mrs. J. M. Chandler : Miss C. Fairbrother (Resigned 17.10.71) : Miss J. Ham
Disinfectors; Rodent Operators and Mortuary Attendants	: S. Deaves (Retired 31.7.71) : G. Smallpiece : T. Goodley
Meteorological Observer (part-time)	: O. H. Corble (Retired 6.6.71) : Mrs. M. Hassall (Appointed 7.6.71)
Home Safety Officer (part-time)	: E. Beton

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres)	7.895 (including 963 acres foreshore)
Population	49,680 (estimated mid-year Home Population)
Rateable Value	£2,581,756 (1st April 1972)
Estimated product of a penny rate	£27,700 (1972/73)

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Live Births	Legitimate	- Male	274	Female	246	Total	520
	Illegitimate	- "	42	"	44	"	86
Live Births per 1,000 home population (crude rate)							12.2
" local adjusted rate							16.2
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births							14
Still Births	Legitimate	- Male	3	Female	2	Total	5
	Illegitimate	- "	0	"	1	"	1
Still births per 1,000 total live and still births							10
Total Live and Still Births							612
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age (Legitimate 8. Illegitimate 2.)							10
Infant Mortality Rates							
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births							17
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births							15
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births							23
Neonatal Mortality Rate							
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births							12
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate							
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births							12
Perinatal Mortality Rate							
Still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births							21
Maternal Mortality - Number of Deaths							0
Deaths - All Ages							
Deaths per 1,000 home population (Crude rate)							933
" local adjusted rate							18.8
							11.3

GENERAL INFORMATIONArea

Excluding foreshore, 6,932 acres.

The Charter of Incorporation for the Borough of Margate was granted on the 29th July, 1857, since when four Extension Acts and Orders have been passed, viz:- 1877, 1894, 1913 and 1935, when the increased areas were respectively:-

	<u>Acres</u>
1877	955
1894	1,549
1913	2,463
1935	7,895 (including 963 acres foreshore)

Population

The Registrar's estimated population mid-year 1971 is given as 49,680.

Physical Features and General Character of the District

Margate is situated on the North-East coast of Kent in the Isle of Thanet, 72 miles from London and 16 miles from Canterbury.

Climate, Soil, etc.

The climate is bracing and the district is justly recognised as being the healthiest in England.

The East end of the town is built between two valleys, and Westbrook, Westgate-on-Sea and Birchington are built on the chalk formation, and owing to this and the general undulation of the ground the whole town is exceptionally favoured as regards surface drainage.

The sea front is nine miles in length, of which seven are promenades.

Birth Rate

The number of births registered during the year was 612 (319 males and 293 females), and of this total 6 were still births (3 males and 3 females). There were 86 illegitimate live births (42 males and 44 females).

The total live birth rate is 12.2 per 1,000 (adjusted rate 16.2. per 1,000) and the rate of illegitimate live births is 1.7 per 1,000 estimated population.

The above figures show an increase of 34 legitimate live births on the figures for 1970, and an increase of 32 in the number of illegitimate live births.

Death Rate

The number of deaths registered during the same period was 933 (442 males and 491 females). These figures are reached after deducting deaths of persons normally resident outside the town and adding the deaths of persons normally resident in the town who died outside the district.

The total death rate is 18.8 per 1,000 (adjusted rate 11.3 per 1,000).

The principal causes of death were

Heart Disease	325
Malignant Disease	192
Cerebro-vascular Disease	141
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	43
Pneumonia	75
Violence	25
Bronchitis and Emphysema	46

Of the total number of 933 deaths 793 were of persons aged 65 years and over.

Comparative Figures

	<u>England & Wales</u>	<u>MARGATE</u>
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	16.0	16.2
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total live and still births)	12.0	10.0
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	11.6	11.3

For the whole of England and Wales the live births registered exceeded the deaths by about 216,000 and the estimated total population at mid-year was 48,894,500 which was 168,000 less than the estimate for 1970.

Malignant Disease

This, as usual, is one of the principal causes of death.

33 males and 8 females died from cancer of the lung or bronchus.

Infantile Mortality

Of the number of infants who died under the age of one year, 8 were males and 2 were females. The infantile mortality rate is therefore 17.0 per 1,000 live births.

The causes of death were

Respiratory Distress Syndrome	3
Acute Bronchitis	2
Hepatic Failure	1
Broncho Pneumonia	1
Gross Prematurity	1
Persistent Hypoglycaemia	1
Asphyxia (Inhalation of Stomach Contents)	1

The infant mortality rate for 1971 for England and Wales was 18.0 per 1,000 live births.

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
1900	20.4	13.8	169
1910	15.9	11.1	93
1920	24.5	12.7	68
1925	15.7	10.8	40
1935	11.3	10.9	52
1936	11.8	12.2	56
1937	10.9	12.7	52
1938	11.8	11.1	24
1939	11.3	11.6	25
* 1940	12.3	17.1	41
* 1941	13.9	16.7	11
* 1942	14.7	18.9	34
* 1943	15.0	20.1	50
1944	18.5	18.7	43
1945	18.1	16.0	39
1946	20.2	13.0	42
1947	19.5	14.0	30
1948	13.4	11.5	38
1949	14.5	13.3	29
1950	13.5	14.0	31
1951	12.2	15.9	28
1952	13.3	13.2	29
1953	16.4	12.1	28
1954	16.2	13.4	31
1955	14.9	8.9	21
1956	16.8	10.0	34
1957	18.5	9.5	24
1958	16.5	12.2	14
1959	12.6	12.0	14
1960	11.9	12.4	15
1961	13.5	12.3	23
1962	13.8	13.6	17
1963	17.5	11.0	24
1964	17.4	10.5	26
1965	16.2	10.3	21
1966	16.0	10.5	23
1967	17.4	9.2	14
1968	16.6	11.7	19
1969	16.0	11.2	24
1970	14.8	11.5	22
1971	16.2	11.3	21

*During these years the population was very greatly reduced and the decrease was chiefly amongst young people. Statistical figures, therefore, cannot be compared with normal years.

Deaths of "residents" in age groups in Margate whether occurring in or beyond the District during 1971.

[illegible]

[illegible]

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Ttl all Ages	Udr 4 wks	4 wks & udr 1yr	AGE IN YEARS									
					1 to 4	5 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65 to 74	75 & over	
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	3	
Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Diseases of Musculo- Skeletal System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	
Congenital Anomalies	M	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	
	F	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	M	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	
Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	
	F	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	
All Other Accidents	M	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	2	
	F	9	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	5	
Suicide and Self- Inflicted Injuries	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
All Other External Causes	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	442	6	2	2	2	-	-	5	14	57	157	197	
	F	491	1	1	1	-	2	2	5	8	32	127	312	

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Maternity and Nursing Homes:

Section 187 of the Public Health Act, 1936, provides for the registration of nursing homes and maternity homes.

Under the Act the term "Nursing Home" does not include any hospital or premises maintained or controlled by a Government Department, Local Authority, or by any other body or persons constituted by Special Act of Parliament or incorporated by Royal Charter.

At the end of 1971 there were 4 nursing homes on the Register.

No Orders were made during the year refusing registration.

Laboratory Facilities:

The Public Health Laboratory Service continues to carry out pathological and bacteriological work for the Corporation and medical practitioners in the town. The laboratory is under the direction of Dr. A. L. Furniss.

The examinations undertaken include throat swabs, blood, sputum, material in cases of food poisoning, etc.

In addition to the above there is a pathological laboratory at the Isle of Thanet District Hospital, Margate Wing, St. Peter's Road, Margate.

Ambulance Facilities:

The Kent County Council is the responsible Authority for the provision of an Ambulance Service throughout the County, and the Service also provides for the carrying of both walking and sitting cases. Patients can be moved to any part of the British Isles.

The Ambulance Station is situated in the grounds of Haine Hospital and serves the needs of the Thanet area. This station operates 12 ambulances and 10 sitting case cars. All ambulances are equipped with radio-telephone apparatus, making possible the quick diversion of ambulances to meet emergencies, and also enabling the maximum use to be made of vehicles during each journey.

The following statistics supplied by the County Medical Officer give particulars of the patients carried, lengths of journeys, etc., from the station at Haine. These figures include, Margate, Ramsgate and Broadstairs.

	<u>Ambulance Service</u>	<u>Hospital Car Service</u>
Number of patients carried	97,476	10,424
Number of emergency cases	2,223	-
Mileage	328,845	74.987

Home Nursing:

This service is provided free by the Kent County Council. Except in cases of emergency and accident, the service of a Home Nurse is available only by authorisation of the patient's doctor.

Domestic Help Service:

The Domestic Help Service is administered by the Kent County Council. During the year 1971 approximately 565 cases of sick and aged persons were assisted, this number included 4 lying-in cases. There were approximately 74 Home Helps engaged on this work.

In addition, the Kent County Council administers the following services which are run in conjunction with the Home Help Service:-

(i) Family Care Service

This service is provided for a maximum period of three months where the mother of two or more children is absent from home for medical or domestic reasons. During 1971, nine such cases were assisted.

(ii) Family Welfare Service

This is a service provided for a mother who needs advice and guidance upon all aspects of household management and budgeting and care of children. It is a free service. Supervisory visits are made periodically by the Area Home Help Organiser for five years from the commencement of the service. During the year there was one case served.

(iii) Evening Service

This service is provided for aged persons to ensure, where necessary, they are made safe and comfortable for the night. During the year there were three cases served.

(iv) Night Attendance Service

There were no cases of aged chronic sick persons provided with the service during the year.

Chiropody:

A chiropody service for senior citizens is operated by Kent County Council. This service is available for men over 65 years of age and for women over 60 years and may be obtained on application to the Social Services Department at Mortimer House, Hartsdown Road, Margate. Treatment is carried out at the Child Welfare Clinic, College Road, Margate.

Health Visiting and School Health Service:

The Kent County Council's Health Visiting and School Health Service continued to be maintained as before and the total number of Health Visiting staff is 6.

Family Planning:

The Family Planning Association Clinic is established at the Child Welfare Clinic, College Road, Margate. With the co-operation of the Marriage Guidance Council, a Marriage Guidance Counsellor is available at the Clinic.

Treatment Centres and Clinics:

The following tables give some particulars of the various treatment centres and clinics operated by the Kent County Council.

Treatment Centres & Clinics	Sessions	
	Days	Times
<u>MATERNITY CLINIC</u>		
<u>Ante-Natal</u> College Road Clinic	1st & 3rd Wednesday in the month	2.30 p.m.
King Ethelbert Clinic	1st Tuesday in the month	2.30 p.m.
<u>CHILD WELFARE CENTRES</u>		
College Road Clinic	Tuesday) Thursday)	2.00 p.m.
King Ethelbert Clinic	Wednesday	2.00 p.m.
Garlinge Clinic	Friday	2.00 p.m.
<u>DENTAL (Mothers & Children)</u>		
College Road Clinic	By appt.	
King Ethelbert Clinic	By appt.	
<u>SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE</u>		
College Road Clinic	2nd & 4th Friday	By appt.

Specialist School Clinics:

Attendance at these County Council Clinics is by appointment only, application for treatment being made to the County Medical Officer.

Clinics	Address of Centres
Child Guidance	Health Centre, Newington Road, Ramsgate
Ophthalmic	Child Welfare Centre, College Road, Margate
Speech Defects	Mortimer House, Hartsdown Road, Margate
Lip Reading for the Deaf	Child Welfare Centre, College Road, Margate

Domiciliary Midwifery Service:

A comprehensive domiciliary midwifery service is available and the number of midwives in the Borough employed by the Kent County Council is 4.

District Office:

The Kent County Council have established a District Office at Mortimer House, Hartsdown Road, Margate, where enquiries in the first instance can be made with regard to any County Council Health Services.

Services provided by the Regional Hospital Board:

The following clinics are administered by the Hospital Management Committee of the Regional Hospital Board.

Clinics	Sessions	
	Days	Times
<u>Chest Clinic</u> Isle of Thanet District Hospital, Margate Wing	Tuesday	9.30 a.m.
Royal Sea Bathing Hospital	Wednesday	9.30 a.m.
<u>Mass Radiography Unit</u> Royal Sea Bathing Hospital	Wednesday	2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.
<u>Special Clinic for Treatment of Venereal Diseases</u> Royal Sea Bathing Hospital	Friday (Women) Friday (Men)	10.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m.

In addition to the above, clinics are operated at the Isle of Thanet District Hospital, Margate and Ramsgate Wings, for all types of illness.

Venereal Diseases:

The Medical Officer-in-Charge of the Special Clinic for Treatment of Venereal Diseases informs me that during the year 1971, a total of 149 new cases from Margate were treated, i.e. 2 syphilis, 39 gonorrhoea and 108 other conditions.

Infectious Disease Hospital Accommodation:

The Infectious Disease Hospital at Haine has ample ward and cubicle accommodation for all types of serious infectious disease. It has also been found possible to admit cases of minor infectious disease when various circumstances have rendered it necessary for the patients to be removed to hospital.

Arrangements have been made by the Regional Hospital Board for small-pox patients to be admitted to The River Hospitals (Long Reach), Dartford, Kent.

Prevalence of, and control over Infectious and Other Diseases:

The prevalence of infectious disease is uniformly distributed throughout the town. This is due to the fact that there is no large industrial area or congested residential area confined to any one district.

Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1971

Disease	Total Cases Notified*	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	19	-	-
Viral Meningitis	1	1	-
Food Poisoning	24	3	-
Measles	68	-	-
Whooping Cough	10	-	-
Infective Jaundice	2	1	-
Tuberculosis			
Pulmonary	4	-	-
Non-pulmonary	2	-	-

*For analysis under age groups see separate table on page 17.

Tuberculosis:

It was not found necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 and no action was taken under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Scabies:

Facilities are provided for treatment of cases of scabies at the Disinfecting Station when the patients' clothing and bedding can also be disinfected.

Vaccination and Immunisation:

The following are particulars supplied by the County Medical Officer for Kent of vaccinations and immunisations carried out in the Borough of Margate during 1971. These tables are based on the return sent to the Department of Health and Social Security.

Year of Birth	Primary						
	Triple Antigen	Diphtheria Tetanus	Smallpox	Tetanus	Measles	Polio-myelitis	Rubella
1971	12	-	2	-	-	13	-
1970	348	5	46	-	192	414	-
1969	147	2	108	-	143	160	-
1968	9	4	24	-	46	27	-
1967	1	2	4	-	29	-	-
1964-1965	-	-	1	-	10	-	-
1966	1	2	3	-	24	-	-
1955-1963	-	-	12	15	8	-	158
Totals	518	15	200	15	452	614	158

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREAWater Supply

The whole of the Borough of Margate is within the statutory water supply area of the Thanet Water Board set up by the provisions of the Kent Water Act 1955, and upon which Board Margate Borough Council has seven representatives.

Generally speaking, water for the Borough is supplied from the Board's Pumping Station at Wingham, fifteen miles south-west from Margate, and Sparrow Castle Pumping Station near Acol in Thanet. During the peak summer demand Linksfield, Tivoli and Dane Pumping Stations in Margate are also used. All sources consist of wells and adits abstracting water from the underground chalk, the only treatment being sterilisation by means of chlorine. Occasionally water may be transferred from the Board's other sources in its area but they all draw water from the same geological formation. Water consumption in the Boards' area varies with the season from 8 to 14 million gallons per day.

The sanitary conditions in the gathering grounds are under constant view as is the quality of the water which is subject to frequent bacteriological and chemical examination. The following are typical analyses of the water and all samples delivered into supply submitted were reported by the laboratories as of high organic purity and considered wholesome and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

Analysis of a sample of water taken from a tap at The Court House, Margate on 7th September, 1971, for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory, Preston Hall, British Legion Village, Maidstone.

Probable number of coliform bacilli per 100 ml. 0.

Analysis of a sample of raw water taken from Wingham Pumping Station, on 6th September, 1971, for chemical examination at the Counties Public Health Laboratories, London.

Chemical results in parts per million

Appearance	Clear and bright
Turbidity (A.P.H.A. Units)	Nil
Colour (Hazen)	Nil
Odour	Nil
pH	7.3
Free carbon dioxide	24
Electric conductivity	580
Dissolved solids dried at 180°C	390
Chlorine present as chloride	48
Alkalinity as calcium carbonate	230
Hardness: total	280
Carbonate	230
Non-carbonate	50
Nitrate nitrogen	7.3
Nitrite nitrogen	Absent
Ammoniacal nitrogen	0.00
Oxygen absorbed	0.00
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.00
Residual chlorine	....
Metals:	
Iron	0.06
Zinc	0.33
Copper	0.07
Lead and Manganese	Absent

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction free from metals apart from minute traces of iron, zinc and copper. The water is hard in character but not to an excessive degree, it contains no excess of mineral constituents

it is of very satisfactory organic quality.

From the aspect of the chemical analysis these results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

Analysis of a sample of raw water taken from Sparrow Castle Pumping Station, Westgate-on-Sea, on 1st March, 1971 for chemical examination at the Counties Public Health Laboratory, Preston Hall, British Legion Village, Maidstone.

Chemical results in parts per million

Appearance	Clear and bright
Turbidity (A.P.H.A.)	Nil
Colour (Hazen)	Nil
Odour	Nil
pH	7.1
Free carbon dioxide	40
Electric conductivity	580
Dissolved solids dried at 180°C.	410
Chlorine present as chloride	46
Alkalinity as calcium carbonate	245
Hardness: total	285
Carbonate	245
Non-carbonate	40
Nitrate nitrogen	12
Nitrite nitrogen	Absent
Ammoniacal nitrogen	0.00
Oxygen absorbed	0.10
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.00
Residual chloride	....
Metals (iron, zinc, copper and lead)	Absent

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from iron and other metals. The water is hard in character but not to an excessive degree, it contains no excess of mineral constituents and it is of very satisfactory organic quality.

From the aspect of the chemical analysis these results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

During the year, 39 samples of drinking water were taken for bacteriological analyses and 57 for chemical analyses.

With the exception of one standpipe serving two houses, all the 18,693 dwellings in the Borough had a direct water supply.

There were 4 private wells in use within the Borough, although in no instance was the water taken for domestic purposes. One well was used in connection with a dairy for cleaning or cooling purposes. A well at the Royal School for Deaf Children supplied water to the swimming pool and ablutions, the water being chlorinated at source. A factory used its well for water necessary to the trade. The fourth well was used in connection with the production of ice for commercial purposes.

3 chemical and 8 bacteriological samples confirmed the well water as suitable for the purpose for which it was being used but also gave indication of no great pollution of subsoil water.

Coastal Waters

In conjunction with the neighbouring towns, the sampling programme of coastal waters was continued during the year. Examination of the samples obtained was carried out in the Science Department of the Thanet Technical College, under the direction of Dr. R. Knight.

Also in conjunction with the neighbouring towns, arrangements were made with a firm of Consultant Engineers to carry out a complete survey of the method of sewage disposal to the sea, and to make recommendations for any improvements or changes to this method that may appear desirable.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

In the last half century the character of refuse has changed considerably from a dense mass to the much bulkier material we now know. Margate, in common with the other seaside towns, faces the difficult problem of seasonal fluctuations of quantity resulting from the influx of holiday visitors. It may be supposed that as standards and modes of living change in the future there must also be a variation in the type of refuse produced.

Refuse collection is carried out by a fleet of tipping freighters calling generally on a weekly basis to domestic premises, but more frequently to larger establishments which produce greater quantities. Trade refuse is collected upon request, or at regular intervals depending upon the type of refuse, a charge being levied for this service.

Disposal has been by incineration and some controlled tipping. It became apparent that the Margate Refuse Destructor was overloaded and reaching the end of its mechanical life and therefore the Margate Borough Surveyor and Director of Technical Services investigated the possibility of disposing of some material on the adjoining authorities' tips; permission was received to place some material on their controlled tips which proved invaluable as an interim measure.

The Thanet Joint Refuse Disposal Committee set up in 1969 and consisting of representatives of the Boroughs of Margate, Ramsgate and Sandwich, the Urban District of Broadstairs and St. Peter's, and the Rural District of Eastry, have investigated various means and methods of disposal finally deciding to provide a refuse pulverisation plant to be set up on a site at Richborough. The necessary permissions have been obtained and the land acquired. Detail preparation of the necessary works is in hand by Mr. G.E. Sewell, the Engineer to the Committee and it is expected that the plant will be operational by the end of 1972 and fully commissioned early in the following New Year. Tipping of the pulverised refuse will then commence on the land leased from the Central Electricity Generating Board west of the River Stour.

Drainage and Sewerage

Margate was one of the first authorities to implement a sewerage system starting back in the 1880's and added to gradually over the years. The system used was the "combined" method where both foul sewage and surface water pass into the same pipe sewer.

The districts of Westgate-on-Sea, Margate Central and Cliftonville drain eastwards to Foreness Point where a storage culvert retains the sewage for discharge through the Outfall Station on ebb tide. Two outfalls sewers of 30" and 42" diameter discharge the screened and macerated sewage approximately 600 yards from the shore into a strong north-easterly current.

Birchington sewage gravitates westwards to the sewage works at Plum Pudding Island which was constructed in 1929. Here the sewage is comminuted before passing through two primary sedimentation tanks and into an 18" diameter sea outfall for discharge approximately 570 yards from the shore. During adverse tidal conditions the treated sewage is stored in two tidal storage tanks. The sedimented sewage sludge is dried on open clinker beds and is disposed of on the land.

Over the years the disadvantages resulting from the acceptance of a combined system of sewerage have become apparent. Foul sewage is a relatively small proportion of the combined flow and it was therefore at times of storm that flooding started to become evident. Attempts have been made to alleviate this problem by restricting or prohibiting the flow of surface water from roads and housing into the sewers and the

construction of public and private soakaways. Margate is generally situated on the Upper Chalk and therefore the ground is mostly reasonably free drainage. However, this part solution could be considered only temporary and naturally the adequacy of the pipe sewer sizes have been reducing as development has proceeded.

The Outfall pipes at Birchington and Foreness are aged and erosion of the chalk reefs and foreshore materials has exposed the pipes. In times of storm these outfalls are inadequate and the Birchington Sewage Works is unable to deal with the increased flows.

In co-operation with the adjoining towns of Ramsgate and Broadstairs, the Consultant, Sir Frederick Snow & Partners, has been appointed to investigate the siting and suitability of the Margate outfall at Foreness, and also those in Ramsgate and Broadstairs. A report is expected in the near future.

Design works are proceeding for the provision of a main line relief sewer to extend from the end of the storage culvert at Wilderness Hill through the town to Birchington thus creating a gravity flow for the whole of the town's sewage to the one outfall at Foreness. Phase I of these works should be in hand during the financial year 1972-73 for the construction of the relief sewer to Westgate.

Report of the Home Safety Officer

During the year efforts were continued to make the public more aware of the danger of accidents in the home, and this was done by means of talks, film shows and the distribution of posters and home safety literature throughout the Borough. Some success must have been achieved for it was encouraging to note that a large proportion of the entries in the Childrens' Safety Poster Competition depicted home and water safety hazards, thus proving that children are becoming increasingly aware of these dangers. It is essential that persons of all ages are continually educated in this field of safety, starting with the very young.

A stand was taken at the Margate Trades Exhibition at the Winter Gardens in February, and a number of home safety exhibits were put on display, the main theme being the prevention of poisoning accidents. This type of accident also causes concern to the members of the Pharmaceutical Society, and during the latter part of the year the first meetings were held to launch a campaign to encourage people to hand in all unused medicines and tablets as these are a potential source of danger in any home.

Efforts were made also to bring home to the public the danger of serious injuries which could be caused by the mishandling of fireworks and bonfires. During late October and early November three persons were treated at Margate Hospital for injuries caused in this way, two of them being only slightly injured.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors.

I have pleasure in submitting this report on the work carried out by the Public Health Inspectorate in 1971.

I commenced duties on 8th March, 1971 succeeding Mr. E. Brazier who retired after 36 years' local government service, 35 of which were with the Borough of Margate. He held the office of Chief Sanitary Inspector, later redesignated Chief Public Health Inspector, for 22 years. Our good wishes go to Mr. Brazier for a long and happy retirement.

1971 was an extremely busy year for the Department, particularly in the improvement grant field, and it is gratifying that so many dwellings are being brought up to modern standards as a result. The inevitable result of such pressure was a regrettable reduction in the number of routine visits carried out, particularly under the Food Hygiene Regulations and Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act.

The period leading up to the reorganisation of local government in 1974 will be a testing time for all local government officers. Fortunately, the environmental health functions remain at district council level with the sole exception of the compositional control of food which becomes a County Council function; Environmental Health Departments in the reorganised local government will accordingly remain viable units. Towards the end of 1971 a working party of the three Thanet Chief Public Health Inspectors was set up to collate existing functions, to assess future needs and to make appropriate recommendations. Discussions are taking place on a very friendly basis which augurs well for the future.

My grateful thanks go to the Medical Officer of Health, the Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. A. M. R. Jones, and the staff of the Health Department for their help and co-operation during the year, and to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committee for their support.

J. R. GREIG

COMPLAINTS

A total of 905 complaints was received during 1971, excluding those relating to food. Rodent complaints are also shown separately.

The matters referred to included the usual variety of house defects, insect infestations and other nuisances and the following tables summarise the action taken under the various headings. Comment on specific subjects will follow later in the report.

NOTICES SERVED

	Informal	Formal
Public Health Acts, 1936-1961		
(a) General Nuisances	83	5
(b) Drainage and Sanitary Accommodation	22	2
Housing Acts, 1936/69	230	1
Noise Abatement Act, 1960	1	-
Clean Air Acts 1956-1968	3	-
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970	50	1
Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966	6	-
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	27	-
Factories Act, 1961	4	-
Riding Establishments Act, 1964	3	-
Milk and Dairies Regulations	3	-
Miscellaneous	4	-

NUISANCES1. General Matters

Much of the Public Health Inspector's time is spent on the investigation of nuisances. Such matters as dampness and defects in houses, the keeping of animals, accumulations of refuse and drainage problems have to be investigated. Statutory powers are available for enforcing remedies but as the foregoing table shows, most matters can be effectively dealt with by informal action. Legal proceedings had to be invoked in two cases, details of which are given on Page 42.

2. Noise

Thirty complaints relating to noise were received and investigated during the year. Factories on the Westwood Industrial Estate came in for particular criticism which is not surprising in view of the cheek-by-jowl proximity of houses to factories. Other complaints referred to noise from refrigeration plant, amusement arcades, pneumatic drills, etc.

Complaints of noise from domestic premises arising from radios or animals are usually referred to the police who initiate action under the Byelaws for Good Rule and Government of the Borough.

Margate is remarkably free from the recurrent noise nuisance from chimes on ice cream vehicles due to the restriction placed on the number of hawkers' licences issued under the Margate Extension and Improvement Act, 1877, and at the end of 1971 only 6 mobile ice cream traders were so licensed. Nevertheless, one complaint was received and investigated during the year. A flagrant contravention of Section 2 of the Noise Abatement Act, 1960 occurred when a well-known circus used a loudspeaker van to tour the streets for advertising purposes.

Observations were requested by the Kent County Council on two applications for licences under the Late Night Refreshment Houses Act 1969. In view of the likely disturbance to residents if the premises were allowed to remain open into the small hours, recommendations were submitted and adopted suggesting closure of the restaurants concerned at 12.30 a.m.

HOUSING

1. Unfit Houses

(a) Clearance Areas

My predecessor referred in previous annual reports to the changing emphasis in housing from clearance to rehabilitation and improvement. This change has been brought about locally by a number of factors including recent increases in property values, the popularity of the improvement grant scheme and the wish of many older people to spend their retirement at the sea-side.

Confirmation of the Victoria Road Compulsory Purchase Order, 1970 was received from the Department of the Environment on 4th May, 1971 subject to the modification that No. 41 Victoria Road was to be excluded. This property had been included on the original order as it was considered that its acquisition was necessary to secure a cleared area of convenient shape for redevelopment.

At the end of the year, there remained only one group of 18 houses on the list of properties submitted to the Council in 1970 for future clearance area procedure.

(b) Demolition and Closure

Housing Act, 1957, Sections 16 and 17

No. of dwellings demolished	No. of dwellings closed	No. of families displaced	No. of persons displaced	No. of Closing Orders revoked
3	8	7	17	1

(c) Basements

At the beginning of the year, closing orders were in force in respect of basements at 36 properties. The table below summarises action taken during the year but many unsatisfactory basement dwellings remain to be dealt with.

Reservations are now being expressed on all Local Land Charges Searches in relation to basements which do not comply with the Housing Act, 1957 and the Council's Underground Room Regulations thereby ensuring that incoming owners are fully aware of the situation, particularly if they intend to let basement accommodation separately.

Housing Act, 1957, Section 18

No. of parts of buildings closed	No. of families displaced	No. of persons displaced	No. of Closing Orders revoked
5	3	8	2

(d) Repair

4 informal notices were served during the year in regard to houses which were found to come within Section 9 (1) or (1a) of the Housing Act, 1957, i.e. those which were unfit for human habitation but were capable of repair at reasonable cost or were in need of substantial repair works. In one case a statutory notice was subsequently served which was still outstanding at the end of the year.

2. House Improvement

The accompanying graph illustrates the dramatic increase in improvement grant applications since the introduction of the Housing Act, 1969 and Tables A and B give details of the improvement grants dealt with during the year.

Successive governments have stressed the importance of improving the country's stock of older housing. Removal of the conditions formerly attached to improvement grant approvals, coupled with the increased amount of grant payable, are factors which are undoubtedly responsible for the greater popularity of improvement grants and the public health inspectors have actively promoted the scheme locally.

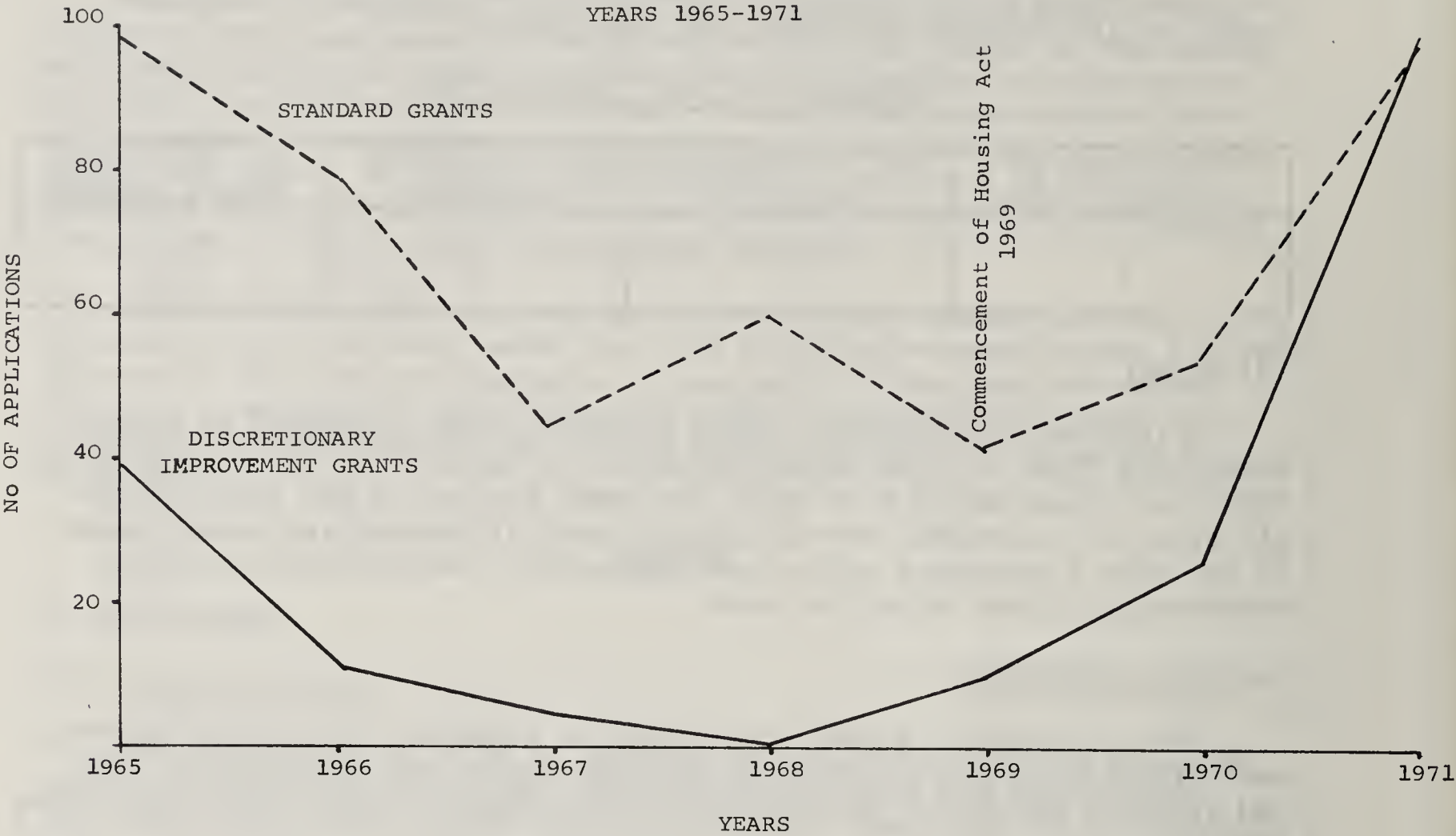
It is not sufficient, in my view, to install standard amenities - bath, internal W.C., hot water supply, wash hand basin and sink - into a house and expect it to provide satisfactory accommodation in the future. The standards advocated by the Parker-Morris Report (Homes for Today and Tomorrow) are likely to be the minimum standards within a very short time.

Increasing emphasis is therefore being paid to the comprehensive improvement of houses. House owners are being encouraged to provide more power points, kitchen cupboards and worktops and better lighting in addition to the standard amenities. The increase in the number of individual improvement grants illustrates the change.

Repairs and replacements qualify for improvement grant aid up to one-half of the approved expense of the scheme. Assistance is now given towards such items as repointing of brickwork, major roof and chimney repairs and the remedying of dampness in conjunction with improvement projects.

An important part of the improvement grant scheme relates to the conversion of large houses and commercial properties into flats. At their June 1971 meeting, the Health and Housing Committee accepted my recommendation that such grants should not be considered on the narrow grounds of the housing needs of Margate. Later in the year, the policy was widened to enable applications to be granted regardless of the status of the applicant or the intended future disposal of the property.

GRAPH SHOWING IMPROVEMENT GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR THE
YEARS 1965-1971



IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

TABLE A

		CONVERSIONS	IMPROVEMENTS
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	Number of Applications	33	68
	Dwellings	84	68
APPLICATIONS APPROVED	Owner-Occupied Dwellings	5	9
	Other Dwellings	72	54
	Approved Expense of Works	£87,020	£31,616
	Amount of Grant Approved	£41,886	£15,901
GRANTS PAID	Dwellings	36	3
	Amount of Grant Paid	£21,983	£791

STANDARD GRANTS

TABLE B

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	Number of Applications	99	
APPLICATIONS APPROVED	Owner-Occupied Dwellings	Normal Limit	Higher Limit
		43	6
	Other Dwellings	39	7
	Amount of Grant Approved	£14,367	
GRANTS PAID	Dwellings and Total Amount Paid	74	£9,724
	No. of Amenities Provided	Baths/Showers	47
		Wash Hand Basins	56
		Sinks	16
		Hot/Cold Water	3 Points 58
		Supplies	1&2 Points 19
		Water Closets	43
	Bathroom Extensions Built		9

Nevertheless, many members of the Council continued to show concern at the increasing numbers of buildings, particularly hotels, being converted into flats with the aid of improvement grants, especially where such flats were subsequently sold. Planning consent must, of course, be obtained for such conversions and the 25% contribution towards the grant which is payable by the local authority (the remainder coming from Exchequer sources) is eventually recoverable from increased rateable values. Surely it can only be for the good of Margate that many larger properties which have been empty for some time are now being renovated and put back into use.

The Tenancy and Advances Sub-Committee meets at three-weekly intervals to deal with improvement grant applications but the power to approve standard grants up to £200 was delegated to the Chief Public Health Inspector at the June 1971 meeting of the main Committee.

3. Compulsory Improvement of Houses

Representations were received from the tenants of 2 dwellings during the year requesting the Council to use its powers to enforce the provision of the standard amenities. In neither case was a voluntary undertaking to carry out the work received from the landlord and consideration was being given to the service of immediate improvement notices at the end of the year.

4. Qualification Certificates

Qualification certificates certifying that properties meet the qualifying standard prescribed by the Housing Act, 1969 are issued to owners of tenanted properties to enable controlled tenancies to be changed to regulated tenancies. Higher rents as assessed by the Rent Officer can then be imposed in stages.

Two separate procedures are involved depending on whether the standard amenities already exist or are to be provided and the following table shows the number issued during the year:-

Section 44(1) (already improved)			Section 44(2) (improvement cases)		
No. of applications received	No. of Qualification Certificates issued	No. of applications outstanding at 31.12.71	No. of applications received	No. of Certificates of Provisional Approval issued	No. of Qualification Certificates issued
31	37 (including certain applications received in 1970)	15	14	14	12

5. Houses in Multiple Occupation

It is estimated that at least 500 of such houses exist in the Borough though many are used for summer letting purposes only. Standards for heating, cooking, sanitary and washing facilities etc. were adopted by the Council in 1963 and during 1971 a total of 17 informal notices was served requiring the provision of additional amenities, etc. Formal enforcement action under Section 15 of the Housing Act, 1961 had to be taken in one case.

There are no common lodging houses in the Borough.

INFESTATION CONTROL

1. Rats and Mice

The number of complaints received was very nearly identical to the previous year but analysis of the investigations carried out suggests an increase of one third in the number of infestations of mice, with a corresponding decrease in rat infestations.

A reduction in the number of rodent operators has curtailed the number of premises surveyed for rodent infestation, but the areas liable to re-infestation are well known and can be kept under surveillance.

When 10% of the sewers was test baited in the Spring, there were indications in a few manholes that rats were present. Investigation of the neighbourhood and baiting of inspection chambers in the vicinity confirmed the presumption that rats had gained entry following exposure of a drain or sewer during building operations. A maintenance treatment in the Autumn when building operations had ceased in the area indicated that the infestation had been controlled.

The following statistics for 1971 were submitted to the Ministry Agriculture, Fisheries and Food:-

	Type of Property	
	<u>Non-Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
1. Number of properties in district	21,252	25
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	252	8
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	84	6
(ii) Mice	88	1
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	49	1
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	8	1
(ii) Mice	15	1

2. Insects

The accompanying table shows the number of insect complaints received and treatments carried out during the year:-

Type of Insect	Complaints Received	Advice Given	Treatments carried out
Fleas	23	4	19
Bugs	9	1	8
Ants	16	8	8
Earwigs	15	6	9

(continued)

Type of Insect	Complaints Received	Advice Given	Treatments carried out
Cockroaches	35	14	21
Flies	8	4	4
Wasps	104	—	104
Bees	3	3 (referred to Bee-keeper)	—
Other Insects	9	6	3
Total	222	46	175

3. Birds

Trapping operations resulted in the capture of 207 feral pigeons which were humanely destroyed. Despite these activities, there was little apparent change in the pigeon population due, no doubt, to the encouragement given by bird-lovers in providing regular food.

The collared dove appears to be multiplying rapidly throughout this part of the south-east and its removal from the "protected" list is believed to be under consideration.

4. Rabbits

The Council continued its membership of the East Kent Rabbit Control Society which dealt with a number of rabbit infestations throughout the Borough during 1971.

CARAVAN SITES AND CAMPING

The following caravan sites are licensed under the provisions of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960:-

Address of Site	Holiday/Permanent	No. of Caravans
Court Mount, Birchington	Permanent	140
Linksfield Road, Westgate	Static Holiday Site	85
Bradgate Caravan Site, Lydden	Static Holiday Site	54

Site licensing is the responsibility of the Borough Surveyor and Director of Technical Services but the sites are regularly inspected by the Public Health Inspectorate and any deficiencies from the Public Health point of view brought to the attention of the site owners.

The issue of camping site licences under the provisions of Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936 is dealt with by the Health Department, the following licence having been issued in 1959 without time limit:-

Address of Site	No. of tents
Five Acres, Shottendane Road, Birchington	75

11 inspections were made during the holiday season and conditions were generally found to be satisfactory.

HOTELS, GUEST HOUSES AND HOLIDAY FLATS

A close liaison exists with the Publicity Officer in relation to complaints alleging shortcomings of holiday accommodation. Such complaints are usually investigated jointly by the District Public Health Inspector and a representative of the Publicity Department.

It is noticeable that the number of complaints received is in inverse proportion to the amount of sunshine during the holiday season; 1971 was a good summer and a total of only 26 complaints was received regarding 22 separate premises. Matters referred to included dusty rooms, unclean and poor quality bedding and inadequate facilities generally.

Most of the complaints received were thought to have been somewhat exaggerated as the majority of hotels offer good value at a reasonable price; conditions were rarely so bad as to necessitate action more serious than the advice readily given by the inspecting officers. It was apparent that some of the holiday flats and flatlets were given inadequate cleaning and other attention between changes of tenancy, the owners seeming to put too much reliance on the outgoing tenant for the cleanliness of the accommodation.

During the year, the Council adopted standards for holiday flats and flatlets based on recommendations made by the British Travel Association. Such standards while having no legal standing will be an essential prerequisite to advertising in the Holiday Guide from the 1973 season onwards and will provide a code of good practice for the Borough's holiday flat industry.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AT RESTAURANTS, ETC.

Section 89 of the Public Health Act, 1936 enables a Local Authority to require the provision of sanitary accommodation for members of the public frequenting restaurants etc. The policy of the department is now to insist upon the provision of separate toilets for male and female patrons of such establishments when new businesses are being opened. Arrangements were made for the Town Clerk and Chief Executive's Department to notify all applications for restaurant licences made to the local Justices thus enabling representations to be made if sanitary accommodation is considered inadequate or if the premises have other shortcomings.

CLEAN AIR

The built-up area of the Borough of Margate comprises a band about a mile wide along a nine mile long coastline; the effect of atmospheric pollution is accordingly minimal as in prevailing wind conditions, smoke from domestic chimneys is carried out to sea. Temperature inversions are fortunately rare in the area.

Complaints received during the year were confined to the following:-

- (1) A hospital chimney in a built-up area frequently emitting dense black smoke. The co-operation of the Hospital Management Committee was sought and it is hoped that the use of a higher grade fuel will overcome the problem.
- (2) Smoke and fumes from a small iron foundry situated in an otherwise residential area. Frequent visits did not confirm a statutory nuisance, and informal action resulted in minimal discharges from a cupola used for metal smelting three times a week.

- (3) Smuts from the chimney of a local dairy. The advice of the National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service was sought in this case and alterations to the installation recommended by their Engineer and the Boiler Manufacturers seem to have effected a remedy.
- (4) Several complaints regarding bonfires either on demolition sites or in gardens of private houses. Each complaint was investigated and appropriate advice given.

Two applications for approval of chimney height were dealt with during the year, one being unusual in requesting a lower height than existing. This arose from a changeover to oil of a lower viscosity and the alterations seem to have had the desired effect of relieving severe smut problems.

The obnoxious smoke emanating from burning refuse at the Council tip adjacent to the Refuse Destructor continued to give offence but it is understood that use of these premises will be discontinued when the new pulverising plant at Richborough comes into operation.

FOOD CONTROL

1. Food Inspection

All meat consumed in the Borough is derived from abattoirs elsewhere. A small poultry slaughterhouse killing and dressing chickens for the kosher trade continued to operate, handling approximately 4,250 birds during 1971. Periodic supervision is being maintained by the District Public Health Inspector.

The services of the Public Health Inspectorate were requested on many occasions to give decisions as to the fitness of food for human consumption. The following table summarises the food surrendered as unsound during 1971, and disposed of by destruction at the Council's Refuse Destructor.

Food Surrendered or Condemned

	cwts.	lbs.	Tons.	cwts.	lbs.
Meat (i) carcase meat	1	42			
(ii) offal		<u>28</u>		1	70
Cooked meat and meat products				1	62
Canned meats				3	80
Other canned foods			1	15	54
Fish				3	71
Frozen foods due to cabinet breakdown			1	15	56
Other foods				10	40
					<u> </u>
		Total	4	11	97

2. Food and Drugs Sampling

The following table summarises the samples of foods and drugs taken during the year. Analyses were carried out by the Public Analyst (J.H. Marshall M.A., F.R.I.C.) at the South Eastern Laboratory, 1 New Dover Road, Canterbury.

<u>ARTICLE</u>	<u>No. of Samples</u>	
	<u>Informal</u>	<u>Formal</u>
Artificial Sweeteners	3	
Baker's Confectionery	2	
Butter and Margarine	3	
Cereal Products	1	
Cheese	2	
Drinks - Alcoholic	2	5
Non-Alcoholic	7	
Drugs and Medical Preparations	7	
Essences and Colourings	4	
Fish and Fish Products	4	
Fruit, canned	2	
Ice-cream	1	
Meat and Meat Products	6	
Milk and Milk Products - Fresh	2	24
Canned	2	
Cream	1	
Miscellaneous	2	
Preserves, etc.	5	
Sauces	3	
Sugar Confectionery	13	
Vegetables, canned	1	
Miscellaneous	6	
	79	29

Unsatisfactory reports were received on the following samples:-

<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Analyst's Report</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
247 (Informal)	Fruit Salad in Syrup	Can did not bear the words "Ingredients in Alphabetical Order" or other acceptable alternative.	Letter sent to suppliers who confirmed that re-print labels would bear these words.
379 (Informal)	Canelloni	Label not satisfactory in that there was no list of ingredients in English.	Letter sent to manufacturers who confirmed that this was old stock and labels were now entirely in English.
425 (Informal)	Dairy Ice Cream	Sample contained 10% fat but there was insufficient to characterise it as butter fat.	Follow up visit revealed that the vendor was no longer manufacturing his own ice cream.

Surveillance was maintained by the Public Health Inspectors of food stored or displayed in shops and other premises within the Borough. Minor contraventions of labelling and other food control regulations were brought to the attention of the proprietor or manufacturer concerned.

3. Merchandise Marks Acts

Orders issued under the provisions of these Acts required the indication of origin to be displayed on certain imported foods. The Trades Descriptions Act 1968 repealed the Acts but continued the orders in force until November, 1971 when they lapsed.

4. Food Complaints

49 complaints relating to food were received during the year and may be summarised as follows:-

	<u>Complaint</u>		
	<u>Mould</u>	<u>Foreign Matter</u>	<u>Unsound</u>
Milk	-	-	2
Butter	-	-	1
Cheese	4	-	-
Bread	4	4	2
Canned Meat	-	1	-
Cooked Meat	1	3	2
Meat Pies	2	-	2
Fish	-	-	2
Fruit	1	1	-
Vegetables	-	-	1
Cereals	-	2	1
Sweets	-	1	-
Confectionery	1	1	-
Other Food	2	1	7
	15	14	20

The complaints referred to a wide variety of foreign objects in food e.g. glass, insects, a fingernail, brick rubble and paper. There was also the usual crop of complaints regarding mould in meat pies, cheese, bread etc.

Each complaint was thoroughly investigated in conjunction with the retailer or manufacturer concerned. There were 2 prosecutions as detailed on page 42. Formal warnings were issued in 3 cases and appropriate advice given in the remaining cases.

The following typical incidents during the year illustrate the type of complaint received and the action taken:-

- a. Complaint alleging glass in salmon sandwich. "Glass" particles identified by the Department as crystals of magnesium ammonium phosphate which is occasionally found in canned salmon. Crystals dissolved in warm vinegar to convince complainant that they were not fragments of glass.
- b. Complaint alleging that Guinness sold at local public house was not genuine. Arrangements made for sample to be tested by the Brewers who confirmed its authenticity.

c. Complaint of mould in pork pie. Careless rotation of stock at retailer's premises undoubtedly to blame but complainant unwilling to give evidence in Court in the event of legal proceedings. Retailer reminded of 48 hour recommended shelf life of these products and advised to introduce his own coding system. Formal warning issued.

5. Food Hygiene

This is a most important subject requiring close attention in a busy seaside area. There is inevitably some difficulty in inspecting all the premises listed in the following table mainly due to the short summer season so far as small guest houses are concerned.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970.

	<u>Number of Premises Subject to Control</u>
Wholesale or semi-wholesale stores, warehouses and shops	9
Retail food shops	320
Restaurants and cafes	126
Hotels, boarding houses, clubs, canteens, etc.	772
Poultry slaughterhouse	1
Total	<u>1228</u>

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970 came into force on 1st March, 1971. There were several minor changes from the 1960 regulations and one amendment enabled closer control to be exercised over the display of open foods such as gateaux in restaurants. As a result many new counter screens and display cabinets were provided. The new Regulations governing the wearing of clean and washable overclothes and the separation of animal feed from that intended for human consumption were also strictly enforced although there are continuing problems in the former case of deciding what is acceptable as "overclothing".

During the busy summer period, the Public Health Inspectors carried out frequent evening and weekend checks on food premises in the holiday areas. Few contraventions were noted. The strict enforcement by the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures of the provisions of Margate Extension and Improvement Act 1877 relating to the licensing of hawkers ensured that there were few problems from itinerant food vendors.

The overall standard of food hygiene in the Borough is considered to be very satisfactory. A few businesses needed frequent supervision to maintain a reasonable standard but in one case it became necessary to take proceeding for infringements of the Regulations. Fines totalling £200 were imposed as detailed on page 42.

6. Milk and Dairies

Two pasteurising plants using the H.T.S.T. process continued in operation during 1971. The plants were satisfactorily and efficiently operated. The following tables summarise the results of milk and milk container samples taken during the year:-

Results of Milk Samples (Methylene Blue, Phosphatase and Plate Count Tests) and Milk Container Samples (Plate Count Test)

	<u>No. Taken</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Milk	57	55	2
Bottles	140	138	2
Churns	18	18	-

<u>Average Composition of Milk Samples submitted to the Public Analyst</u>			
	<u>Fat</u>	<u>Non-Fat Solids</u>	<u>Total</u>
Ordinary milk	3.81	8.73	12.54
Channel Island milk	4.68	8.96	13.64

(Note: The statutory standards for milk are 3% fat and 8.5% solids-non fat. Channel Island milk must contain at least 4% fat.)

Following publication of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Circular FSH 2/71 which advocated the methylene blue testing of cream, a sampling programme for this commodity was introduced. Results were by no means impressive as will be seen from the following table. The test applied has no legal backing but the local producers are known to be critically examining their separating and packing processes with a view to reducing bacterial contamination, and it is hoped that the standard will improve as a result.

<u>No. of Cream Samples Taken</u>	<u>Results</u>		
	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Fairly Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
25	6	10	9

There are no retail sales of raw milk within the Borough.

7. Ice Cream

Bacteriological Grading
(Methylene Blue Test)

<u>No. of Samples</u>		<u>Grade 1</u>	<u>Grade 2</u>	<u>Grade 3</u>	<u>Grade 4</u>
Local Manufacturers	16	13	2	1	-
(Soft)	6	5	1	-	-
National makes	33	28	3	2	-
(soft)	12	6	5	-	1
TOTAL	67	52	11	3	1

(Grades 1 and 2 are considered satisfactory)

It will be noted that a generally high standard is maintained, the occasional unsatisfactory result invariably resulting from inadequate sterilisation of servers or other equipment by the retailer. Appropriate advice was given and repeat samples proved to be satisfactory.

There are 23 local manufacturers in the Borough, 2 with pasteurising plants and 21 used a "complete cold mix". 5 of the manufacturers sold ice cream from their own cafes and 2 were also wholesalers.

Soft ice cream was sold from 13 retailers' premises, all except one using sterilised mixes produced by manufacturers outside the Borough.

8. Registration of Premises

Premises required to be registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1965 are those used for the manufacture or sale of ice cream, the boiling of hams, the cooking of shellfish and poultry and the manufacture of sausages etc. New registrations approved during 1971 are listed on page 45.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

The following report submitted to the Department of Employment in March 1972 summarises the duties undertaken under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 during 1971.

TABLE A

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS			
Class of premises	Number of premises newly registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Offices	9	222	15
Retail Shops	17	476	41
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	-	18	8
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens	6	115	41
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
TOTALS	32	831	105

TABLE B

Number of Visits of all Kinds (including general inspections) to registered premises	311
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TABLE C

ANALYSIS BY WORKPLACE OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES AT END OF YEAR	
Class of Workplace (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
Offices	1463
Retail Shops	2327
Wholesale departments, warehouses	135
Catering Establishments open to the public	936
Canteens	28
Fuel Storage Depots	-
TOTAL	4889
Total: Males	2168
Total: Females	2721

I Registration and Inspection

No significant changes occurred in the number of registered premises during the year. General inspections showed a modest increase over the previous year but the general pressure of work was responsible for the comparatively small proportion of premises receiving such inspections.

II Operation of the General Provisions of the Act

No developments or special cases worthy of particular mention arose during the year. Some difficulty was experienced in dealing with lifts and hoists in public houses and it was found that many such installations are not receiving a regular examination by competent persons as required by the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises (Hoists and Lifts) Regulations, 1968.

The leaflet "The Safe Use of Food Slicing Machines" was widely distributed to foodshops and catering businesses and generally well received by all concerned.

III Accidents

8 accidents were notified during the year. All were investigated, advice was given where appropriate but in no case was a major injury involved.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Prescribed details relating to the local authority administration of the Act during 1971 are given overleaf:-

FACTORIES ACT, 1961Part I of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (inspections made by Public Health Inspectors):

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	224	27	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) (Building Sites)	71	1	-	-
Total	303	28	1	-

2. Cases in which defects were found:-

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	3	3	-	-	-
TOTAL	6	6	-	2	-

Part VIII of the ActOut Work (Sections 133 and 135)

Nature of Work	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)
Wearing Apparel Making etc.	31
Artificial Flower Making	1
Soft Goods	1

All outworkers' premises inspected were found to be satisfactory.

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS)ACT, 1956

This Act enables a Local Authority to take action to secure the provision of adequate sanitary conveniences for farmworkers.

Adequate facilities have been provided in close proximity to farm buildings for the use of permanent employees. Casual labour of both sexes is employed for the harvesting of certain crops and in many cases young children accompany their parents. At such times, toilet and washing facilities are provided at temporary shelters in the fields.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT, 1950

Diseases of animals duties under the Act reverted to the local authority in April, 1970 and a technical assistant was jointly appointed for Margate Borough and Broadstairs and St. Peters Urban District to carry out the work. Routine duties comprise the inspection of stock records at farms, etc., inspection of premises licensed under the Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order and the follow up of movement orders received from cattle markets.

One suspected case of rabies in a corgi dog was notified. Restrictions were placed on the animal by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food but tests carried out at their Weybridge Laboratory were negative. The year was otherwise uneventful so far as diseases of animals in Margate were concerned.

Statistical information:-

No. of cowkeepers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
No. of pig keepers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
No. of pig keepers licensed under the Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
No. of poultry keepers with over 50 birds	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
No. of poultry keepers with over 50 birds licensed under the Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order, 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
No. of Movement Licences received	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
No. of inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	63

OTHER LEGISLATION RELATING TO ANIMALS

1. Animal Boarding Establishments

There were 4 licensed establishments within the Borough as detailed on page 45 with a total boarding capacity of 126 dogs and 66 cats. 8 inspections were carried out during the year.

2. Pet Animals Act, 1950

Pet animals were sold from 6 premises during the year as detailed on page 45.

3. Riding Establishments Act, 1964.

One riding establishment ceased to operate during 1971 but the two businesses listed on page 45 were relicensed during 1971. The legislation relating to this subject was augmented from 1st January, 1971 by the Riding Establishments Act, 1970, the principal effect of which was to introduce additional conditions to be attached to licences. The kind assistance of the Council's authorised Veterinary Surgeon, Mr. O.L. Tweedale, M.R.C.V.S., B.Sc., in connection with the enforcement of the Riding Establishments Acts is gratefully acknowledged.

SWIMMING POOLS

There exists only one public swimming pool within the Borough which is a privately-owned open-air seawater pool used during the summer season. Construction of the Council's new indoor pool at Hartsdown Park commenced towards the end of the year.

The following table describes the swimming pools within the Borough where regular samples of water are taken for bacteriological examination. Results of samples are also shown.

Name of Pool	Capacity (gallons)	Type	Type of Filter	Type of Chlorination Plant	No. of Samples Taken	No. of Samples Satisfactory
Royal School for Deaf	58,000	Indoor heated (Steam) well water	Pulsometer	Drip Feed sodium hypochlorite	10	10
The Lido	500,000	Outdoor seawater	Nil	By hand	3	3
Hydrotherapy Pool/ Princess Mary's Hospital	3,000	Indoor heated freshwater	Diatomaceous	Drip Feed sodium hypochlorite	11	11
Garlinge Primary School	15,000	Outdoor freshwater	Isoflow	Drip Feed sodium hypochlorite	2	2
St. Gregory's School	10,000	Outdoor freshwater	Purley Pool Ltd.	Drip Feed sodium hypochlorite	2	2

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1947 - SECTION 50

Arrangements were made for six burials by the local authority of bodies where relatives were unable or unwilling to meet the cost of funeral expenses or where relatives could not be traced.

BOROUGH MORTUARY

147 bodies were received in the Mortuary during 1971 including 8 for the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council. At the beginning of the year, three manual workers were employed by the Department on various duties including post mortem attendant but Mr. S. Deaves retired on 31st July, 1971 and was not replaced. One of the attendants was on duty at each of 134 post mortems.

PROSECUTIONS

<u>Statute</u>	<u>Offence</u>	<u>Court Decision</u>	<u>Fine</u>	<u>Costs</u>
Food & Drugs Act, 1955, Section 2	Foreign matter in sausages	Guilty	£20	-
Food & Drugs Act, 1955, Section 2	Glass in bottle of lemonade	Guilty	£20	£5
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970	Dirty equipment.) Failure to protect food from risk of contamination.) Lack of hot water supply to wash-hand basin.) Inadequate supply of soap and lack of nail brushes and clean towels) Lack of waterproof first-aid dressings.) Sink without supply of hot water.) Inadequate lighting in food room.) Disrepair to and dirty condition of walls, floors, doors, ceiling and woodwork to food rooms.) Accumulation of refuse in food room.)	Guilty	£200	-
Public Health Act, 1936.	Non-compliance with Abatement Notice. (Most of the work required had been carried out prior to Hearing.)	Order for payment of Council's costs	-	£10
Public Health Act, 1936	Non-compliance with Abatement Notice	Nuisance Order granted	-	£5
Public Health Act, 1936	Failure to comply with Nuisance Order	Guilty	£25	£5

SUMMARY OF NEW LEGISLATION AFFECTING
DEPARTMENT WHICH CAME INTO FORCE DURING 1971

- (1) Riding Establishments Act, 1970.
- (2) Coffee and Coffee Product Regulations, 1967.
- (3) Fish and Meat Spreadable Products Regulations, 1968.
- (4) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970.
- (5) Ice Cream Regulations, 1967.
- (6) Margarine Regulations, 1967.
- (7) Preservatives in Food (Amendment) Regulations, 1971.
- (8) Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1970.
- (9) Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Regulations, 1971.
- (10) Slaughter of Poultry (Humane Conditions) Regulations, 1971.
- (11) Live Poultry (Restrictions) Order, 1971.

INSPECTIONS

Visits made under:-	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Re- Inspections</u>
<u>Public Health Acts</u>		
General	778	893
Clean Air Act	37	27
Noise Abatement Act	42	39
Notifiable Diseases	51	33
Food Poisoning	9	16
<u>Housing Acts</u>		
Section 9	157	77
Section 16	29	42
Section 18	83	26
Section 42	3	7
Houses in Multiple Occupation	110	153
Grants: Improvement	349	398
Standard	226	161
Surveys	166	9
Loans	17	3
Applicants for rehousing	37	6
Qualification Certificates	133	117
<u>Food and Drugs Act, etc.</u>		
Shops (general inspections)	269	228
Restaurants, etc.	175	103
Hotels, etc.	104	48
Markets, stalls and delivery vehicles	154	26
Food factories	8	2
Unsound food	196	49
Sampling (general)	63	1
Ice Cream Regulations etc.	28	6
Butchers' shops	25	19

INSPECTIONS (Continued)

Visits made under:-	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Re- Inspections</u>
<u>Milk and Dairies Regulations</u>		
Dairies and distributors' premises	78	7
Sampling (milk and bottles)	28	1
<u>Factories Act</u>		
Factories (Power)	27	22
<u>Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act</u>	105	206
<u>Prevention of Damage by Pests Act</u>	72	42
<u>National Assistance Act</u>	17	8
<u>Miscellaneous (unclassified)</u>	1331	255
	<u>Totals - 4907</u>	<u>3030</u>

LICENSING AND REGISTRATION

In accordance with the decision of the Health and Housing Committee on 31st May, 1967, a list of licences, etc. issued during 1971 is given below.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS, 1963 as amendedDealer's (Pre-packed Milk) Licences:-

Massmart, 52 Northdown Road, Margate.
 Mr. and Mrs. R. Stevenson, 136 High Street, Garlinge.
 Mr. and Mrs. E.A. Philpot, 164 Canterbury Road, Margate.
 F.W. Woolworth and Co. Ltd., 31/33 High Street, Margate.
 N.F. Bennett, 159 Minnis Road, Birchington.
 F.W. Woolworth and Co. Ltd., 54 Station Road, Birchington.
 J.H. Mantle, Southdown Stores, 207 Canterbury Road, Birchington.
 R.C. Whybrow, 81A Canterbury Road, Margate.
 G. James, The Oxford Stores, 18A St. Peters Road, Margate.
 Mr. and Mrs. P.H. Wilkins, Linksfield Stores, 137 Linksfield Rd, Westgate.
 A.L. and H. Macey Ltd., 76 Northdown Road, Margate.
 V.J. Gordon, 83/85 Victoria Road, Margate.
 International Stores, 61 High Street, Margate.
 Mr. and Mrs. E.J. and M.E. Potter, 46 Salvestone Road, Margate.
 D. Burrows, 70 Ramsgate Road, Margate.
 David Greig Ltd., 74/76 High Street, Margate.
 Lipton (Vye) Supermarket, 94 High Street, Margate.
 Tesco Supermarket, 95/97 High Street, Margate.
 G.A. Bragg, 7 Gordon Road, Westwood.
 R.J. and P.M. Paton, 337 Ramsgate Road, Margate.
 Mrs. J. Beckett, 15 Milton Square, Margate.
 H. and J. Leggett, 44 Addiscombe Road, Margate.
 C. Paige, 14 Cuthbert Road, Westgate.
 P. Finlay, 56 St. Mildreds Road, Westgate.
 H.F. Martin, Alpha Stores, 128 Alpha Road, Birchington.
 International Stores, The Square, Birchington.
 International Stores, 19 Station Road, Westgate.
 Gale and Smith Ltd., 122 Northdown Road, Margate.
 R. French, Leonards, 148 Northdown Road, Margate.
 Mr. and Mrs. H.S. Miles, 380 Northdown Road, Margate.

Fine Fare Ltd., 70/72 Upper Dane Road, Margate.
 Mr. and Mrs. F. Bailey, 2 Holly Lane, Margate.
 Tesco Supermarket, 196/198 Northdown Road, Margate.
 H.B. Debnam and Mrs. J.P. Fowler, Bojeans, 206 Northdown Road, Margate.
 Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society, 65/67 Approach Road, Margate.
 Weston Bros. Ltd. 1 Summerfield Road, Margate.
 Cavey's Ltd., 109 Canterbury Road, Margate.
 Fine Fare Ltd. 54/58 Station Road, Birchington.
 A. Stanway, 1 Milton Square, Margate.
 Granville Ltd., 76 Station Road, Birchington.
 D. Whitcher, 16 St. Johns Road, Margate.

Dealer's (Pasteurisers) Licences:-

W. Tyrrel, Zeila Farm, High Street, Garlinge.
 Weston Bros. Ltd., 56 Addington Street, Margate.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 - Section 16

Ice Cream Premises

L.E. Cartier, 133 Linksfield Road, Westgate.
 Mr. and Mrs. W.F. Cherry, 42 Arlington Square, Margate.
 Margate Model Village Ltd., Queens Entertainment Centre, Margate.
 W.J. Askew, Dreamland Park, Margate.
 A.S. Lambert, Dane Valley Frozen Food Centre, 45 Upper Dane Road, Margate.
 G. and J. Pelosi, 3/4 The Centre, Margate.
 Dalgety Food Products, 19/20 The Centre, Margate.

Renewal licences were issued in respect of the under-mentioned for the year 1971.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Cramphorn Ltd., 180 Northdown Road, Margate.
 R.H. Nicholas, 6 Cuthbert Road, Westgate.
 Mr. and Mrs. D.W. Collins, 123 Canterbury Road, Margate.
 Mr. G.E. Brazier, 196 Canterbury Road, Birchington.
 Mr. and Mrs. A.R. King, 34 King Street, Margate.
 Mr. R.J. Bradley, 22 Northdown Road, Margate.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Miss R.J. Samuels, Five Acres, Shottendane Road, Birchington.
 Mrs. E.M. Dee, Queensdown Kennels, Woodchurch, Birchington.
 Mr. R.J. Hall, Elmeshall Kennels, Manston Road, Margate.
 Mrs. M.E. Smith, Whytes Kennels, Valley Road, Margate.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 - Section 107

Offensive Trade

S. Read (Margate) Limited, Love Lane, Margate.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964

Mrs. M. Harcourt, Walker's Stables, Acol Hill Farm, Birchington.
 Mr. A. Brown, Dineley's Yard, Station Road, Westgate and Brown's Yard, Church Street, Margate.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT FOR 19711. SUNSHINE

Sunshine hours were unfortunately below average 1632.9 hours compared with an average of 1745 hours. November had the best comparison with 150% of average, and January the worst with only 65%. May and July had an average amount of sunshine, April and June being below average. However the Autumn was exceptionally sunny with September, October and November all experiencing more than average sunshine.

2. PRECIPITATION

(a) Rainfall was below average with 465.8 mms. compared with an average of 553 mms. June was the wettest month with 80.2 mms., 250% of average, April May and June also being above average. December was exceptionally dry, only 8.1 mms., 7% of average. There were several very heavy downpours during the year, the wettest day being June 14th with 27.3 mms.

(b) Snow Slight snow fell in the early evening of January 3rd and sleet at the end of February. The most snow was experienced at the beginning of March when it was present for 6 days. In December only two sleet showers occurred.

3. FOG

Fog was recorded on ten days but generally cleared quickly.

4. THUNDER

Thunder was recorded on three days on two of which it was accompanied by heavy rain.

5. WIND

Winds were generally westerly, gales being recorded on six days, 23rd January, 1st February, 13th and 14th October and 21st and 22nd November.

6. TEMPERATURE

Most months had a mean temperature near to the average, March and April being cold and October and December exceptionally mild. The warmest day was 15th July, with a maximum temperature of 77.8° F (25.4°C). The lowest temperature was 26.0°F (3.3°C) recorded in both January and March.

Frost was recorded on the following number of days.

	<u>Ground Frost</u>	<u>Air Frost</u>
January	9	7
February	6	-
March	7	5
December	1	1

7. GENERAL

Regular returns were made to the Meteorological Office, Corporation Officials, Water Board, the Press etc. and a number of enquiries from outside sources answered. The charts and information displayed at the weather station continued to attract much attention from residents and visitors. School parties visited the station on three occasions and a tour arranged and questions answered.

At the beginning of December the fahrenheit thermometers were replaced by those recording degrees centigrade, as part of the Meteorological Office policy towards metrication.

8. MONTHLY SUMMARY

January: Very cold at first with hard frosts, becoming milder later in the month. Rainfall was average, but the month mainly dull with only 65% of average sunshine. A gale was recorded on 23rd and fog was recorded on four days.

February: Mainly fair with average temperatures. A gale was recorded on 1st, however, sunshine was a little below average, accompanied by less than half the average rainfall.

March: Very cold at first with light snow showers on six days and much frost. This was the coldest month of the year with a total monthly mean temperature of 41.7°F (5.4°C) 2 degrees below average. Another dry month but sunshine again less than average.

April: Cold winds, with much cloud at first but sunny spells at the end of the month. Mainly dry, but a few heavy showers brought rainfall up to 110% of average, sunshine 66% of average.

May: Sunny at first and during the month 14 days were well above average temperatures, the highest maximum temperature of the month being 71.6°F (22.0°C) on 10th. Winds were mainly light and sunshine hours recorded were 226, 101% of average, however, more than average rainfall.

June: One of the wettest Junes on record with a total of 80.2 mms. of rain, over 250% of average. 27.3 mms. were recorded on 14th June alone, this was the wettest month of the year. Sunshine was well below average with only 169 hours recorded.

July: This was the sunniest month of the year with 237 hours recorded. Winds were light and rainfall was well below average, 38.3 mms., 17.1 mms. of which fell on 25th and 17.6 mms. in a thunderstorm on the evening of 27th. The hottest day of the year was 15th July with a maximum temperature of 77.8°F (25.4°C).

August: This was the warmest month of the year with a total mean temperature of 62.7°F (17.1°C). However sunshine was well below average, as was the rainfall.

September: One of the sunniest and driest Septembers on record with 196.6 hours of sunshine, 123% of average. Temperatures were also above average, and rainfall only 45% of average. Winds were light and fog was recorded on 21st.

October: No rain was recorded until 12th, the total for the month being only 50% of average. The month was mild with temperatures and sunshine above average, 135% of the average sunshine was recorded. Winds generally light but gales recorded on 13th and 14th.

November: Again a very mild and sunny month. Sunshine 150% of average and temperatures only slightly below average. Rainfall was also below average and winds generally light, but again gales were recorded on 21st and 22nd. Fog was recorded on 1st, and hail on 24th.

December: This was the driest month of the year with only 8.1 mms. recorded, 7% of average. It was also mild with only 1 air and 1 ground frost. Sunshine was less than average but the average mean temperature was well above average. Sleet showers were recorded on 29th and 30th.

MONTHLY SUMMARY

Month	Mean Temperature		Rainfall (mms)	Sunshine (hours)
	Max.	Min.		
January	45.4	38.4	47.4	35.1
February	45.8	38.0	19.3	70.7
March	45.7	37.7	37.2	116.5
April	48.1	43.3	40.6	119.7
May	57.9	49.7	40.4	225.9
June	61.5	52.1	80.2	169.4
July	64.6	58.5	38.3	236.7
August	67.3	58.2	50.7	173.1
September	64.7	55.7	20.7	196.6
October	61.2	51.0	30.2	164.0
November	51.0	41.7	52.7	91.2
December	48.4	40.5	8.1	33.8
Total for year		Mean	465.8	1632.9
Average		51.0 51.3		
		1970	505	1677
		1969	761	1571
		1968	561	1419
		1967	500	1798
		1966	868	1520
		1965	526	1621
		30 year average	540	1745



